

TO: House Committee on Revenue
FROM: Sarah McGregor, Community Philanthropy Mgr - Network & Gov't Relations
RE: HB 2097
DATE: February 10, 2024



Chair Nathanson, Vice-Chair Reschke, Vice-Chair Walters, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Sarah McGregor, and I am the Community Philanthropy Manager for Network and Government Relations at Oregon Food Bank. I am submitting this testimony on behalf of the Oregon Food Bank in strong support of HB 2097, which seeks to extend and enhance Oregon's Crop Donation Tax Credit. Oregon Food Bank works to eliminate hunger and its root causes by ensuring all people have access to nutritious food. We partner with a statewide network of food banks, pantries, meal sites, and community organizations to distribute food to individuals and families experiencing food insecurity. Fresh, locally grown produce is critical in ensuring that all Oregonians - regardless of income - have access to healthy and culturally relevant foods.

The Crop Donation Tax Credit has been invaluable in encouraging farmers to donate surplus and marketable produce to food banks and hunger relief organizations. By extending this program, HB 2097 will help ensure that nutritious, locally grown food continues to reach the families and individuals who need it most. This credit supports our mission and provides financial relief to Oregon farmers who generously contribute to hunger relief efforts.

As food insecurity remains stubbornly high across our state, we urge you to support HB 2097, which would sustain and expand access to fresh produce for families in need. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Sarah McGregor
Community Philanthropy Manager: Network & Gov't Relations - Oregon Food Bank

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